

APPENDIX H

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Multiple Base organizations have a role or responsibility in managing and supporting Camp Pendleton's natural resources. Camp Pendleton's ongoing stewardship is accomplished by the organizations identified below and in Figures 1-1 and 1-2. Further description of organizations on Camp Pendleton can be obtained from the MCB Camp Pendleton *Organization and Functions Manual* (BO 5400.14H).

H.1 AC/S ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Environmental Security (AC/S ES) provides the lead and overall coordination of environmental compliance and natural resource management through a staff that provides procedural and technical advice on both military and nonmilitary NEPA documents, facility planning, construction plans, maintenance and daily facilities activities, military operations, and other proposed actions that may affect natural and cultural resources. Fieldwork, surveys, and inventories are accomplished through AC/S ES managed contracts and cooperative agreements. AC/S ES also provides specific information on the flora and fauna present on Camp Pendleton and proactively maintains up-to-date resource data for activity and project planning, thereby minimizing resource data collection delays. However, the AC/S ES does not have the available staff to conduct all fieldwork activities. The AC/S ES serves as the lead for planning and addressing natural resource compliance issues such as wetland and endangered species regulatory requirements. The AC/S ES also provides technical natural and cultural resource management support to installation action proponents regarding resource compliance requirements and Best Management Practices (BMPs) involved with their actions. Conservation education training to military and civilian personnel is a constant focus of the AC/S ES to raise awareness and improve community relations with the goal of preventing resource damage.

The AC/S ES is composed of the Natural Resources Department, Environmental Compliance Department, and the Information Systems Branch. The Natural Resources Department provides strategic planning for and daily implementation of Natural and Cultural resource management. The Environmental Compliance Department provides strategic planning for and daily implementation of environmental protection and compliance regulations basewide on Camp Pendleton for all environmental areas other than Natural and Cultural resources.

The mission of the Assistant Chief of Staff of Environmental Security is:

“To provide environmental services to the Base so that operations and training are conducted in compliance with environmental requirements and land use availability is safeguarded.”

H.1.1 Natural Resources Department

Camp Pendleton's natural resources are managed by the Natural Resources Department, which consists of two Divisions: (1) Resource Management and (2) Resource Planning. Budgetary planning and allocation for the Department is provided by the AC/S ES Program Manager and Budget Office with input from the various resource branches' technical personnel.

The mission of the Natural Resources Department is:

“To develop, manage and oversee implementation of the programs that protect and assure the ability of Base natural and cultural resources to support and sustain mission requirements and compliance with applicable environmental regulations.”

H.1.1.1 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The programs managed by the Resource Management Division can be summarized as those that manage and monitor the natural environment of Camp Pendleton to benefit the military and civilian personnel and foster a high state of combat readiness. This is achieved through a variety of programs: Land Management, which includes elements of fire management, erosion control, and wetlands; Wildlife Management, which has a strong emphasis on endangered species management; Cultural Resource Management; and the Camp Pendleton's Hunting and Fishing Program.

The Resource Management Division Manager supervises four branches: (1) Wildlife Management Branch, staffed with Wildlife Biologists and Biological Technicians; (2) Land Management Branch, staffed with Natural Resource Specialists; (3) Resource Enforcement and Compliance Branch, staffed with a Game Warden/Conservation Supervisor and active duty Marines, and (4) Archaeological Resources Branch, staffed with an Archaeologist and cultural resources technician.

Wildlife Management Branch

The Wildlife Management Branch manages all ESA Section 7 consultations with the USFWS for federally listed threatened and endangered species. This branch also monitors and reports on species related compliance issues, including mitigation management and implementation, and manages rare and endangered wildlife species population programs (exclusive of vernal pool fauna, see Land Management Branch). The Wildlife Management Branch designs and implements population and habitat monitoring and improvement plans/programs for federally listed species and for game and nongame species. The Branch implements the Riparian, Estuarine, and Beach Conservation program, including all Terms and Conditions addressed within the USFWS Biological Opinion (#1-6-95-F-02), and establishes seasonal restrictions and harvest quotas for game and nongame species and stocking programs. In addition, Wildlife Management designs, implements, and manages exotic wildlife species control programs.

Land Management Branch

The Land Management Branch administers Camp Pendleton's Clean Water Act, Sections 404, 401, and 10 permitting processes, including acting as the Base lead in coordinating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board 401/402 certification and compliance process. The Land Management Branch (1) manages rare and endangered plant populations; (2) conducts ESA Section 7 consultations with the USFWS for listed plant and fairy shrimp species; (3) designs and implements population and habitat monitoring and improvement plans and programs for federally listed and non-listed plant species; (4) administers the Long-Term Ecological Trend Monitoring Program for plant communities and habitats; (5) administers, implements, and manages the Erosion Control, and Land Restoration, and Exotic Plant Control programs; (6) manages isolated ephemeral wetland habitats (including vernal pools) in the uplands; (7) administers and manages the basewide vegetation monitoring and mapping efforts; and (8) oversees the sheep grazing, agriculture (row crops), and seed collection outleases. The Land Management Branch Head acts as the Natural Resource Fire Advisor, assisting Camp Pendleton's Fire Department in administering the Fire Management Plan. This includes monitoring pre-fire planning and control/prescribed burns; vegetation management; and conducting post-fire resource evaluation, analysis, and monitoring.

Resource Enforcement and Compliance Branch (Game Wardens)

The Resource Enforcement and Compliance Branch (RECB) maintains a staff of professionally trained Game Wardens to administer the hunting, fishing, hiking, and dispersed (undeveloped) camping recreation programs on Base, including enforcing federal, state, and DoD fishing and hunting regulations; conducting follow-up investigations of reported violations; inspecting for valid campfire permits; and issuing and tracking citations. Game Wardens conduct routine patrols to ensure compliance with regulations, including enforcing range and training, environmental, hunting and fishing and permitting agreements. This branch also manages the animal control program, implements fish stocking and game enhancement programs, conducts on-Base hunter training and education programs, and oversees the federal Marine Mammal Stranding Program. Game Wardens manage and install wildlife guzzlers, issue hunting and fishing licenses, and manage funds collected from the hunting and fishing licenses. Game Wardens are responsible for developing, implementing, and updating the Camp Pendleton Recreation Plan.

Archaeological (Cultural) Resources Branch

The Archaeological Resources Branch of the Resources Management Division administers all programs related to the conservation of archaeological and paleontological resources on Base. This Branch (1) conducts consultations under the National Historic Preservation Act and Archaeological Resources Protection Act with the State Historic Preservation Office and Advisory Council for Historic Preservation; (2) monitors and reports on compliance with consultation/mitigation requirements; (3) develops and implements programmatic Memorandum

of Understanding with State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation; (4) conducts Native American consultations under Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act; (5) develops and implements ongoing Base programs to survey, inventory, and monitor archaeological resources/sites; (6) manages Base curation program for cultural resources; and (7) conducts site specific management of Base archaeological sites listed or eligible for listing under the National Register of Historic Places.

H.1.1.2 RESOURCE PLANNING DIVISION

The Environmental Planning Division Manager supervises three branches, each staffed by a multi-disciplinary team: (1) Strategic Environmental Planning Branch, (2) Project Oversight Branch, and (3) NEPA Branch.

Environmental Planning Branch

The Environmental Planning Branch provides technical advice to both military and nonmilitary land users regarding long range facility and construction planning, maintenance activities, military training operations, and other proposed actions that may affect natural and/or cultural resources. This branch of the AC/S ES serves as the lead for coordination and integration of on-Base land use and natural resources planning with local and regional off-Base planning concepts, initiatives, and programs. The Strategic Environmental Planning Branch has also been assigned the responsibility to coordinate reviews and updates of the INRMP (see Chapter 1).

Project Oversight Branch

The Project Oversight Branch facilitates project planning, environmental review, mitigation development, operation and maintenance planning, and project implementation for long term military and nonmilitary construction projects as well as training action and new equipment fielding. The Project Oversight Branch provides technical environmental project planning guidance to Base personnel regarding natural and cultural resource management and oversight of compliance issues/requirements. Some of the work effort conducted by the Project Oversight Branch is accomplished through AC/S ES managed contracts and cooperative agreements with Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Division (NAVFACENGCOM, SWDIV) or other selected contractors, as deemed appropriate by ES management.

NEPA Branch

The NEPA Branch provides procedural, and technical advice on both military and nonmilitary NEPA documentation for facility planning, construction plans, maintenance activities, military training operations, and other proposed actions that may affect natural and/or cultural resources. Primary responsibilities of this branch include developing and reviewing environmental and planning submittals, facilitating a coordinated project approach for application of the NEPA

planning process, and determining the level of NEPA review required by a given activity, project, or action.

H.1.2 Environmental Compliance Department

The Environmental Compliance Department provides strategic planning for, and daily implementation of, environmental protection and compliance regulations on Camp Pendleton for all environmental areas other than Natural and Cultural resources. Environmental compliance plans and programs developed within this department have important direct and indirect implications for land users, as well as natural resource and land managers. Through use of BMPs, engineering controls, and administrative procedures, regulations are implemented to protect and sustain land resources for military training and support purposes. Compliance programs include water pollution, toxic pollution prevention, air pollution prevention, underground storage tank (UST) management, installation restoration programs, noise abatement, and pesticide management.

The Environmental Compliance Department Manager supervises three divisions: (1) Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Division, (2) Inspection and Compliance Division, and (3) Environmental Engineering Division.

H.1.2.1 RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) DIVISION

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Division manages: hazardous substance storage tanks, solid waste facilities, hazardous waste/materials, spill response planning programs and projects basewide, and the characterization and cleanup of RCRA contaminated sites. This division is responsible for the: permitting, design, installation, and management of all hazardous substance storage tanks and solid waste facilities; development and implementation of Base Orders; acquisition and maintenance of all necessary permits from federal, state, or local agencies; administration and coordination of technical reviews, funding requests, and regulatory coordination efforts; and management of Camp Pendleton waste minimization and pollution control programs and projects.

H.1.2.2 INSPECTION AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION

The Inspection and Compliance Division's responsibilities include managing the Multimedia Environmental Compliance Program, Environmental Compliance Evaluation Program, and Comprehensive Environmental Training and Education Program (CETEP). Inspection and Compliance staff applies: (1) determines which legal and regulatory requirements for environmental compliance are applicable to operations at Camp Pendleton; (2) determines and develops viable alternatives for meeting applicable regulatory requirements that are cost effective and minimize and/or avoid environmental liabilities; (3) develops written policies, negotiating positions, procedures, guidance, contract specifications, quality assurance inspections, training course curriculum, and project funding information, as needed, to execute the alternative

determined to be the best course of action; (4) determines the optimal course of action for implementing the finalized written policy, procedure, guidance, curriculum, or project; (5) oversees the implementation of the policy, procedure, guidance, quality assurance surveillance plan, contract, or project and ensures original requirements as identified are met; (6) conducts periodic quality assurance reviews of cognizant programs and identifies potential systemic problems; and (7) identifies and implements necessary and appropriate improvements to compliance programs.

Under the guidance of the AC/S ES, the Inspection and Compliance Division coordinates the Camp Pendleton ECE, as directed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps; prepares environmental and inspection compliance reports and schedules and delivers these to the Base Inspector; advises units of environmental requirements; and sets standards, procedures, and BMPs relating to all aspects of the Commanding General's (CG's) full range of compliance programs.

Environmental Training Branch

The Environmental Training Branch coordinates all environmental education and training programs at Camp Pendleton and conducts periodic training needs assessments. Environmental Training prepares and presents all education and training materials, conducts the senior commanders symposiums, and delivers the S3 and S4 training programs. Environmental Training tracks all environmental training programs being conducted on Base and ensures all training materials and course content meet or exceed Camp Pendleton standards, as established by Marine Corps Headquarters and Camp Pendleton's CG.

Inspection Branch

The Inspection Branch coordinates, monitors, and maintains staff cognizance of environmental inspections, evaluations, and audits by higher or external headquarters, non-DoD agencies, and environmental regulatory agencies. The Inspection and Compliance Division makes recommendations and identifies measures and actions to correct environmental compliance deficiencies and maintains and submits environmental compliance data to the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

H.1.2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Environmental Engineering Division manages environmental projects to support Air Quality, Water Quality, and Installation Restoration (IR) Programs. This Division develops long and short term program requirements, fiscal, technical reviews, compliance reviews, and regulatory negotiations. The Environmental Engineering Division oversees compliance with the IR program in accordance with the Federal Facilities Agreement and environmental regulations.

H.1.3 Information Systems (IS) Branch

The Information Systems (IS) Branch is staffed by professional geographer/planners, computer specialists, and a librarian and serves as a repository and integrator for Camp Pendleton's environmental and natural resource data. The IS Branch oversees the daily maintenance and operations of the Environmental Security computers, information systems, and automated data processing equipment.

This Branch provides resource managers and Base users with a key information integration and management tool: Geographic Information Systems. The information systems within this branch are based in ArcInfo format (software) and contain a majority of the installation's natural resources and other environmental information databases. The AC/S ES IS Branch operates PC-based and Work Station-based GIS in the form of ArcInfo software. The equipment currently in use includes two 486-50 ALR machines, a large-format CalComp digitizer, Nova Jet E-sized color plotter, and a tape back-up. A Sun Work Station was recently added to the hardware array. With the installation of Work Station ArcInfo on these machines, more complex vector and raster analyses can be conducted. Existing GIS data maintained by the IS Branch are in a "vector" or line format, and include topography, geology, soils, vegetation, watershed boundaries, endangered species locations and habitats, fire history, and some aspects of current land use (much of the infrastructure data, such as roads, facilities, training area designations, ranges, etc., are generated by AC/S Facilities or AC/S Operations and Training). It is IS Branch policy to create, update, maintain, manage, and analyze all GIS data to ensure that information is made available quickly and readily in both electronic (digital) and/or hard copy format for use by military supervisors, planners, biologists, and contractors to aid in decision making processes basewide.

To improve the storage, maintenance, and accessibility of natural resource management information in general, the IS Branch has also been developing a Technical Integrated Information Center. This Center is designed to provide virtual library resources for the archiving and retrieval of environmental and natural resource data and documents.

H.2 MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES

Camp Pendleton's Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS) Department is composed of four operating divisions: Services, Food and Hospitality, Semper Fit, and Personal Services Divisions. Each of these divisions operates approximately 20 facilities from the beaches, Lake O'Neill, and fitness gyms to various stores, clubs, and services. Supporting the operating divisions are five support divisions: Human Resources, Marketing, Management Operations, Analysis and Control, Finance, and Logistics. The Logistics Division acts as the point of contact for all facility related issues, including renovation, construction, maintenance, and long range facilities planning. This division is also the conduit for NEPA documentation and any other environmental issues. The MCCS manages all Base Special Events, such as the annual rodeo, music concerts, etc. and the Outdoor Recreation program, to include beaches (with lifeguards), a marina, the Lake O'Neill recreation area (developed camping sites), horseback riding, and stables.

MCCS staff oversees many outdoor recreational activities basewide. They are responsible for coordinating, developing, and managing recreational opportunities for both military and nonmilitary land users at selected/designated areas including Lake O'Neil (camping), Del Mar Beach (day use and overnight recreational vehicle [RV] camping and sailing), and horseback riding.

H.3 AC/S FACILITIES

The AC/S Facilities is responsible for providing, maintaining, and managing quality facilities and services to meet the needs of changing requirements of Marines, sailors and their families. This includes ensuring suitable and adequate housing for military families assigned to Camp Pendleton, and the coordination with tenant commands, Base service agencies, occupants, and off-Base organizations related to services provided by Base Housing. The AC/S Facilities is also responsible for planning, implementing, controlling, maintaining, and repairing real property assets; water quality and quantity management planning; facilities planning, engineering services, and acquisition support services at Camp Pendleton; and pest control, military construction, and utility distribution. The AC/S Facilities consists of Family Housing, Bachelor Housing, Facilities Resource Management, Office of Water Resources, Public Works Department, Facilities Maintenance Division, and the Real Estate Office.

H.3.1 Office of Water Resources

The Office of Water Resources (OWR) provides water resource management planning to ensure the availability of adequate, suitable, and safe water supplies to support all aspects of the mission of the Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton. Responsibilities of OWR include: (1) ensure a common vision for coordinated water resource management actions basewide; (2) formulate and coordinate implementation of both strategic and incremental plans for protection of water resources; (3) plan water supply development and conservation actions, watershed planning, and floodplain protection; (4) act as the Base liaison with federal, state, and local conservation and public health officials regarding water resource management and protection; (5) provide technical support for litigation actions; (6) operate recharge, storage, and diversion works facilities; (7) collect, maintain and analyze, and provide water resource data to Base and off-Base entities; and (8) coordinate reviews of off-Base community projects to ensure sustained quality and quantity of Base water resources.

H.3.2 Public Works Department

The Public Works Department (PWD) of the AC/S Facilities provides facilities planning, engineering services, and acquisition support services at Camp Pendleton. The Public Works Officer (PWO) is also assigned the duties of Officer in Charge of Construction (OICC) and Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) under the operational control of the Commander, NAVFACENGCOM, SWDIV.

The PWD is responsible for Camp Pendleton's master planning, including the Base development plan, Military Construction (MILCON) project and training facilities design, facilities site approvals, and supporting project level environmental studies. The PWD is also responsible for establishing and maintaining the Base's GIS data policy and standards.

H.3.3 Facilities Maintenance Department

The Facilities Maintenance Department (FMD) is responsible for planning, implementing (policy), controlling, maintaining, and repairing real property assets, such as structures, roads, walks, paved areas and grounds, utility systems, landfills (including environmental guidance), and recycling facilities. Facilities Maintenance Department is also responsible for pest control, managing the energy conservation program, performing preventative maintenance and continuous inspections, and developing long range maintenance schedules. FMD also provides MCAS Camp Pendleton with daily maintenance and repair support services, including emergency maintenance and minor repairs to facilities.

H.3.4 Real Estate Office

The Real Estate office coordinates and validates issuance of real estate licenses for use of Camp Pendleton lands and resources, including review and validation of proof-of-insurance. The Real Estate office provides formal preliminary approval for use of Base facilities by leaseholder applicants.

H.4 AC/S OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

The AC/S Operation and Training (O&T) serves as the coordinating agency for all military and nonmilitary organizations desiring to use training facilities, ranges, training areas, airspace, and seaspace at Camp Pendleton. AC/S O&T serves as the approving authority for real estate licenses granted for use of Camp Pendleton lands for training purposes. AC/S O&T ensures all organizations and agencies requiring real estate licenses possess valid licenses prior to granting final approval for the use of facilities, ranges, or training areas.

H.4.1 Range Operations Division

The Range Operations Division is comprised of four main branches: Range Operations, Range Control, Automated Support, and Range Maintenance. Range Operations is responsible for supporting a safe and realistic, 3-dimensional training environment through efficient range and training facility scheduling, timely resolution of live fire conflicts, maneuver training, air and sea space conflicts, coordination and inspection of training activities at ranges and maneuver training areas, and range and training facilities maintenance. This includes conducting range inspections during and/or following use by units operating in the field.

H.4.2 Operations Division

The primary responsibilities of the Operations Division are to manage, coordinate, and supervise support requirements for Camp Pendleton's Command Center, including Base organizations' training programs, operations, and field exercises such as nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) facilities and formal schools, and coordinate all nonmilitary use of Camp Pendleton training lands, as directed by Base Order 5720.16A (Policies and Procedures for Non-Military Use of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton).

H.4.3 Training Resources Management Division

The Training Resources Management Division is responsible for ensuring MCB Camp Pendleton's training resources requirements are planned in a coherent, integrated manner. Specific functions include: (1) creates plans and policies for the development of MCB Camp Pendleton's training resources; (2) monitors and provides technical and operational advice pertaining to all aspects of military construction, facilities special projects, and major rehabilitation training resources related projects, from conception to completion; (3) assesses training resources requirements of the Fleet Marine Forces, formal schools, tenant commands, the USMC Reserves, and other Marine Corps users; (4) monitors the introduction of new weapons, training devices, ordnance, and equipment into the Fleet Marine Forces and formal schools, and ensures Marine Corps Base's training resources plans and policies provide for their use in training; (5) ensures training resources designs are compatible with current Marine Corps conditions, tasks, and standards; (6) ensures new work, improvements, or rehabilitation is not performed on training resources without first being approved by the AC/S O&T, and coordinated with the AC/S Facilities (Public Works Office), with the exception of cyclic maintenance; (7) manages the Range Working Group Program; (8) provides training device technical support and expertise; (9) monitors and provides technical advice to the department on all matters relating to environmental compliance.

H.5 COMMUNITY PLANS AND LIAISON OFFICE

The Community Plans and Liaison Office (CPLO) is a special staff office working under the management/supervision of the Chief of Staff for MCB Camp Pendleton. The CPLO supports the successful accomplishment of all mission activities aboard the Base, however, this office most often works on issues related to Camp Pendleton's land use management and planning functions.

The CPLO is directly responsible for oversight and management of potential encroachment threats from off-Base sources and assists the Base staff, at all levels and within all departments, in strategic land use planning issues and environmental protection programs to maximize effectiveness of the Base's training mission. The CPLO also monitors off-Base real estate development activities, including both current and anticipated future land use activities, and

works with local communities by encouraging such developments to remain compatible with the Marine Corps' military mission. CPLO serves as the primary point of contact with regional public officials at federal, state, and local community levels. CPLO oversees and coordinates Base staff review and evaluation of all non-DoD organization/agencies proposed facilities or project requests requiring long term use of Base lands and other resources and serves as the Base representative with civilian organizations and other nonmilitary agencies to resolve local and regional issues of mutual concern.

H.6 AC/S INSTALLATION SECURITY AND SAFETY

The AC/S for Installation Security and Safety (AC/S ISS) supervises five departments, two of which are described below: Provost Marshal's Office and Fire Department.

H.6.1 Provost Marshal's Office

The Provost Marshal's Office (PMO) is responsible for law enforcement and physical security activities for Camp Pendleton and functions as a special staff officer to the Commanding General. The Provost Marshal enforces military laws, orders, and regulations aboard Camp Pendleton for all persons subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

H.6.2 Fire Department

The Fire Department is responsible for basewide fire protection programs. The Fire Chief provides technical advice to the Command on all matters pertaining to fire protection and management. The Fire Chief has the authority to act, as necessary, to protect life and property from fire. Specific functions include: (1) conducting education, inspection, training and orientation programs; (2) providing pre-fire planning and post-fire investigative activities; (3) providing mutual aid to local and regional agencies and jurisdictions; (4) maintaining fire protection and management records; (5) establishing fuel- and firebreaks; (6) coordinating and conducting prescribed burns; and (7) enforcing the Fire Danger Rating System.

H.7 WESTERN REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR

The "Officer in Charge", Western Regional Environmental Coordinator's office, works directly for the Commanding General, MCB Camp Pendleton in his capacity as Chairman of the West Coast Regional Review Board. Primary functions of the WREC include: coordination of environmental issues of regional interest to the DoD and other services; education of appropriate federal and state personnel on Marine Corps requirements and perspectives; and coordination of intra-Marine Corps environmental information exchange, training, and efforts to achieve consistency in environmental programs across California, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, and Guam.

H.8 MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, CAMP PENDLETON

The Marine Corps Air Station, Camp Pendleton serves as an important part of the MCB air-ground training complex. MCAS Camp Pendleton is located on about 425 acres just north of the 22 Area on Camp Pendleton (Figure 2-2) and is under command of the Commander Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area (COMCABWEST), located at MCAS, Miramar.

The mission of the Air Station is:

“To maintain and operate the world's premier air station in support of flight operations to prepare Marines for combat while protecting and enhancing the environment and providing the highest quality facilities and services.”

The Air Station maintains and operates facilities to support flight operations for components of the Third Marine Air Wing (3d MAW) and the Forth Marine Air Wing (4th MAW), a Marine Reserve Aircraft Wing, with the primary tenants being Marine Air Group 39 (MAG-39), Marine Air Group 47 (MAG-47). The Air Station is home to eight helicopter squadrons which fly the UH-1N Huey, the AH-1W Cobra, the CH-46E Sea Knight, and a detachment of CH-53E Sea Stallions. There are 180 aircraft and 3,675 tenant personnel based at the Air Station. The operational tempo is extremely high; MCAS Camp Pendleton is the busiest helicopter airstrip in the Marine Corps with over 148,000 flight operations annually on its single runway. MCAS Camp Pendleton has grown substantially during the last three years due to the Base Realignment and Closure process, with 3 new squadrons, 47 new aircraft, and over 600 additional personnel. The plant value of the Air Station has increased by 43% to approximately \$340,000,000. With these improvements, the Air Station is now the most modern in the Marine Corps.

As a separate command, the Air Station maintains its own environmental management, NEPA, and environmental compliance support staff, including fiscal responsibilities, obligations, and budgets. However, actions that affect natural resources of MCB Camp Pendleton are staffed for concurrence with the AC/S ES. Generally, MCB Camp Pendleton will lead regulator consultation when its resources are impacted. The Mission of the MCAS Camp Pendleton Environmental Department is to provide guidance and services to ensure environmental compliance and resource stewardship in support of our customers' pursuit of the highest levels of mission readiness.

MCAS Camp Pendleton also has its own GIS Section that serves as a repository and integrator for the Air Station's environmental data. The MCAS GIS Section operates a GIS server, PC-based GIS on a dual processor machine, a large-format ColCorp digitizer, a large format design jet plotter, a tape back-up, and PIII and PIV PCs. The GIS Section is currently developing data layers in a vector format, to include topography, geology, soils, vegetation, threatened and endangered species location and habitat and environmental contaminants. This information will be available for use by planners and decision makers aboard the Air Station. The GIS Section creates and maintains GIS data for use in electronic and hard-copy formats.